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to schedule interview.

10/723,660**D0923-00428**

1. (currently amended) A rectangular siding panel having front and rear faces, first and second side faces and top and bottom faces, said panel having a region of increasing thickness extending from said top face to a transition region defining a sloped, continuous planar first surface at said rear face that continues uninterrupted from said top face to said transition region across the rear face from said first side face to said second face, said rear face in said region of increasing thickness forming a substantially planar first surface defined from said first side face to said second side face that extends, in substantially continuous planar form, from said top face to said transition region, said rear face having a substantially planar second surface occupying a majority of said rear face defined from said first side face to said second side face that extends, in substantially continuous planar form, from said bottom face to said transition region, wherein said region of increasing thickness and transition region cooperate to permit the substantially sloped, continuous planar first surface to sit substantially flush with a portion of a vertical wall when said siding panel is secured to said vertical wall and angled to overlap at least a portion of a second siding panel secured to said vertical wall with a portion of said rear face at a bottom end of said panel resting upon a front face of said second siding panel.

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